Clearfield Job Corps Center a Positive Impact for the Community



You've driven by the campus hundreds of times. You've read in the paper about the service projects that the students have participated in. You may have even met a student from there. But do you really know what the Clearfield Job Corps *is*?

Job Corps is a program that was started back in the early 60's by President Lyndon B. Johnson and is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor. The program is open to financially-challenged youth between the ages of 16-24 and is one of the most successful job-training programs of its kind in the U.S.

"If a student is willing to spend the time necessary to gain the vocational and employability skills required to be successful in today's workforce, and money for education is a problem, Job Corps is the answer for them," explains Dean Hoffman, Clearfield Job Corps Center Director. "Our program gives students soft skills, such as conflict resolution, public speaking and leadership skills, as well as training in one of 13 different trades. When they successfully complete our program they enter the work force armed with skills in a trade and a desire to succeed".

Job Corps students can choose to attend one of 122 centers across the U.S. – Clearfield Job Corps is the largest such center with a capacity to accept 1,320 students. It is also one of the best as it is currently ranked 20th in the nation. The majority of students live on campus, however, 125 seats will soon be opening up for off-campus students as well. "If a student lives within a 30-mile radius of the center, they can commute each day and attend classes," explained Melissa Freigang, Clearfield Job Corps' Business Community Liaison.

If needed, a student can earn a GED or high school diploma on-site at the Great Basin High School and learn a trade – all at no cost to the student. Students can choose from the following disciplines: Information Technology Trades (business, network cable installation, computer repair), Service/Manufacturing Trades (culinary, health occupations, machining and welding), Construction Trades (carpentry, electrical, facilities maintenance, materials handler, plumbing, tile setting/brick laying), and may go on to an advanced training program through the United Auto Workers, or college at Weber State University,

Davis ATC, or Salt Lake Community College.

"Once they're trained we don't just send them out the door! They've learned job searching skills such as writing a resume, searching employment websites, and interviewing skills, however, the center provides six months of job placement assistance," stated Freigang. "We partner with many local businesses to assist in job placement, and our graduates are placed in jobs, in advanced training, or move on to the military."

What does this all mean for Clearfield City? Since the Job Corps is a federally funded program there is a positive economic impact: for every \$1 invested in Job Corps, \$2 is returned to the economy through decreased state funding (i.e., welfare etc.), turning graduates into the work force and creating new taxpayers. Clearfield Job Corps students, representing the different trades, have completed several construction projects within Davis County, such as the Clearfield Cemetery block/rod iron fence, Syracuse City's community stage, and recently provided the much needed manpower for the Davis Chamber of Commerce's 1st Annual Balloon Stampede on Antelope Island.

The Clearfield Job Corps Center employs over 400 employees and pumps approximately \$20 million into our local economy with salaries, as well as food and service contracts with local businesses for day to day operations.

If you would like a tour of the Clearfield Job Corps campus or if you know of someone who may be interested in learning more about the Job Corps program, please contact Melissa Freigang at (801) 416-4690.



Having Problems Paying Your Utility Bill On Time?

If you are having difficulties paying your utility bill, there are several non-profit agencies that can provide possible assistance." Those agencies are:

For information on other programs that might be available call 211.